

# B I B L E

## *S c h o o l*

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King's Church<sup>®</sup>  
Eastbourne

*Love Jesus*  
*Love Eastbourne*  
*Love our World*

# Identity Part I

# Schedule

- 28<sup>th</sup> November – Identity Part I
- 5<sup>th</sup> December – Prayer Meeting
- 12<sup>th</sup> December – Identity Part II
- January 2024 – Prayer Meetings
- February 2024 – Genesis & Creation



# Introduction – Gavin Ortlund ‘Finding The Right Hills To Die On’

- “More Christians were killed by each other over baptism during the Reformation than were killed by the Roman Empire over their faith in Christ.”



# Identity

- How to read the Old Testament & New Testament
- Slavery
- Gender roles
- Authority



Which of the following are 'inclusive' and which are 'exclusive' statements?

- Faith in Jesus is the only way to be saved
- Allah is the only true god
- All roads lead to god and everyone is free to choose which path to follow



## Answers:

- All three statements are exclusive
- Statement three excludes all Christians, Muslims, Atheists etc



## True Or False?

- The Bible is the inerrant word of God and every claim it makes is true
- We should do everything the Bible tells us to do





## True Or False?

- The Bible is the inerrant word of God and every claim it makes is true **(True)**
- We should do everything the Bible tells us to do **(True)**



## Deuteronomy 22:11

- “You shall not wear cloth of wool and linen mixed together”
- The Bible is not saying that to ‘us’



## Remember:

- The Bible was written **for** us but not **to** us
- Much of the Old Testament was written to a pan-theistic world (believing in lots of gods)
- The laws given to Yahweh's people were to show they were devoted to him alone



# Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- Deuteronomy 21:10-14



## Deuteronomy 21:10-14 (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> When you go out to war against your enemies, and the LORD your God gives them into your hand and you take them captive, <sup>11</sup> and you see among the captives a beautiful woman, and you desire to take her to be your wife, <sup>12</sup> and you bring her home to your house, she shall shave her head and pare her nails.



## Deuteronomy 21:10-14 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> And she shall take off the clothes in which she was captured and shall remain in your house and lament her father and her mother a full month. After that you may go into her and be her husband, and she shall be your wife. <sup>14</sup> But if you no longer delight in her, you shall let her go where she wants. But you shall not sell her for money, nor shall you treat her as a slave, since you have humiliated her.



## Deuteronomy 21:10-14

- The woman is rescued and not killed
- She becomes a wife with associated privileges
- She shaves her head, cuts her nails and changes clothes to be set apart from her previous life and brought into Israel



## Deuteronomy 21:10-14

- She is given a full month of compassion to mourn her loss
- She has a husband (God calls himself the husband of his people)
- She is not to be treated as a slave





## Deuteronomy 21:10-14

- The prohibitions are given to the husband, not the wife in this passage



# Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- Kidnap was punishable by death for both the kidnapper and the one who bought the person (Exodus 21:16)



# Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- God didn't create slavery and he doesn't endorse it anywhere in the Bible
- Humans created slavery
- God created laws to improve life and rights for slaves



## Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- We also need to remember that much of the slavery in the Bible was very different to the race-based slave trade we know
- People in the Bible would often *choose* to sell themselves into slavery for a better way of life, and would be well looked after



# Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- The next 10 minutes contains some sensitive material about the mistreatment of women



## Deuteronomy 22:28-29 (ESV)

<sup>28</sup> If a man meets a virgin who is not betrothed, and seizes her and lies with her, and they are found, <sup>29</sup> then the man who lay with her shall give to the father of the young woman fifty shekels of silver and she shall be his wife because he has violated her. He may not divorce her all his days.



# Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- In that patriarchal society women couldn't own property
- If she had no father, husband or son she would have no one to care for her and no legal protection



# Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- A woman who was unmarried and had been sexually involved with a man was seen as being of lesser value in that culture
- Again, this was a human choice, not God's choice





# Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- The woman having the choice to marry the man in Deuteronomy 22:28-29 gives her life-long protection
- Clearly it is a tragic scenario, but one that creates accountability for the man, and protection for the woman



# Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- The fifty shekels price paid to the woman's father is also the price that a husband would pay the father of the bride when getting married



# Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- So, in this scenario the outcome is that the woman is seen as being pure and her 'value' as a human is undefiled
- Also, the man *must* marry the woman, but the woman has the choice of whether to marry him or not



## Deuteronomy 22:25-26 (ESV)

<sup>25</sup> If in the open country a man meets a young woman who *is* betrothed, and the man seizes her and lies with her, then *only the man who lay with her shall die*. <sup>26</sup> But you shall do nothing to the young woman: she has committed no offense punishable by death.



# Is The Bible Pro Slavery & Anti Women?

- God equates rape as being as serious as murder (Deuteronomy 22:25-26)



## 1 Corinthians 14:33-35 (ESV)

<sup>33</sup> As in all the churches of the saints, <sup>34</sup> the women should keep silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be in submission, as the Law also says. <sup>35</sup> If there is anything they desire to learn, let them ask their husbands at home.



## 1 Corinthians 14:32-35 (NASB)

<sup>32</sup> And the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets; <sup>33</sup> for God is not a God of confusion, but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

<sup>34</sup> The women should keep silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says. <sup>35</sup> If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home.



- Don't forget that all Bible translations involve interpretation





# Women speak in the Old Testament & The New Testament

- Miriam (Exodus 15:20), Deborah (Judges 4) and Huldah (2 Kings 22:14) are prophets
- Phillip's daughters prophesy (Acts 21:9)
- Acts 2:17-18, which also quotes Joel



# Women speak in the Old Testament & The New Testament

- 1 Corinthians 11:5 women are praying and prophesying
- In Romans 16 Phoebe holds a responsible position as a deacon, including delivering the letter to the Romans



## Romans 16:3-5 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup> Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, <sup>4</sup> who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well. <sup>5</sup> Greet also the church in their house



## Potential Reasons For 1 Corinthians 14 'Silence'

- Segregated male/female seating and women shouting to their husbands
- Not having learned etiquette of learning before speaking as they were new to Christian meetings



## Potential Reasons For 1 Corinthians 14 'Silence'

- They were shouting interpretations of prophecy and shouldn't have been doing so
- *We don't know the reason conclusively, but can be certain it doesn't mean literal silence because they were women*



# Equality: The Quality Or State Of Being Equal

- Does the Bible promote **equality**?
- **Yes, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” Galatians 3:28**



# Equity: Justice & Freedom From Bias Or Favouritism

- Does the Bible promote **equity**?
- **Yes...but that doesn't mean we are all treated the same**



# Equity: Justice & Freedom From Bias Or Favouritism

- 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 God gives spiritual gifts *'to each one, just as he determines'* with no bias or favouritism...even though we should *'earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy'*!





# Equity: Justice & Freedom From Bias Or Favouritism...Rewards & Judgment

- Luke 6:38, Matthew 16:27, Romans 2:6, 1 Corinthians 3:11-15, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Revelation 22:12
- Luke 10:12, Luke 12:47-48, Revelation 20:12



# In The Kingdom Of God

- Authority does not equal oppression and submission does not equal weakness



## John 10 (ESV)

<sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again.

<sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”



Sometimes the word 'responsibility'  
might be better to use than 'authority'

Hebrews 13:17 says obey your leaders because  
they'll have to give an account of how they led you  
(i.e. they are responsible)



# Father, Son & Spirit Are Three In One...Equal, The Same & Different

- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God – John 1:1



# Father, Son & Spirit Are Three In One...Equal, The Same & Different

- The Father sends the Son and the Holy Spirit
- The Son submits to the Father
- In the Bible, the Father doesn't submit to the Son or the Holy Spirit



# Father, Son & Spirit Are Three In One...Equal, The Same & Different

- I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me — John 8:28
- I have come to do your will O God — Hebrews 10:7



- My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will – Matthew 26:39





- *NB:* At that point if the Son had not submitted to the Father there would be no sacrifice, no atonement, no peace with God, no hope and no salvation for anyone



- It isn't 'cosmic child abuse', but the willing sacrifice of Jesus to pay the price to save sinners (see John 10:17-18)



## 1 Corinthians 15:24-28 (ESV)

<sup>24</sup> Then comes the end, when he (Christ) delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death.



## 1 Corinthians 15:24-28 (ESV)

<sup>27</sup> For God has put all things in subjection under his feet. But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. <sup>28</sup> When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.



# 1 Corinthians 15:24-28

- The Father gives the Son authority over all things (except over the Father himself) so he can destroy ‘every rule, authority and power’ including death in order to then present the church to the Father as the bride of Christ



# In The Kingdom Of God

- Authority does not equal oppression and submission does not equal weakness



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